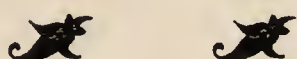


Weston-super-Mare
Urban District Council.



Annual Report


OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

for 1910.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1910.

*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.*

GENTLEMEN,

It devolves on me to submit to you my report for the past year, 1910, on the health and sanitary condition of your town, and to lay before you the usual tables of vital statistics, etc.

The physical features of the district are as follows : — Generally speaking, flat, sheltered on the North side by Worlebury Hill, its geology including sandy subsoil, clay, and mountain limestone.

The town is a health resort, and its population varies much according to the seasons. The working-class inhabitants are chiefly engaged in the building trade, gardening, and a few in pottery making and fishing.

Whilst the town is well provided with ordinary house accommodation, the working-classes have not much choice of a cheaper kind of habitation, but, generally speaking, the conditions of the artisan dwellings are of a satisfactory nature, and the air space on the whole is also fairly good.

New houses are well supervised by the Surveyor and his assistants, whilst the Drainage Inspector overlooks the Sanitary arrangements.

In connection with the provisions of the housing of the Working Classes Act and Town Planning, I have made a general inspection of the district, and in connection therewith, have certified to my Council the existence of 5 houses, which, in my opinion, were unfit for habitation. The Council, therefore, took the necessary steps to close them, and the notices served were duly complied with, without magisterial proceedings.

I should like to add that much extra work is entailed by the coming into force of the Town Planning Act, and the regulations recently issued

in connection therewith, but I am glad to find, it stated by the Local Government Board that it is only necessary for a Council to recommend an increase of salary to their Officer, for such to be sanctioned by them.

From the Registrar's returns I find that during the year 1910, 342 births (173 males and 169 females), were registered in the district, giving a rate of 14·2 per 1000 of the estimated population of 24,000. The Births for 1909 numbered 371 showing a decrease of 29 in 1910.

The deaths during the same period (1910) number 279 (116 males and 163 females), giving a death-rate of 11·62 per 1000 of the estimated population, viz., 24,000. The deaths in 1909 numbered 276, showing an increase of 3 in 1910.

The deaths of persons aged 65 and upwards number 102, viz., 24 between 65 and 70, 39 between 70 and 80, 34 between 80 and 90, and 5 between 90 and 100, giving an average of 76 years and 3 months.

The deaths registered from the principal Zymotic Diseases number 2, as against 12 for 1909, viz., 1 from Diphtheria and 1 from Puerperal Fever, and give a rate of ·008 per 1000 of the estimated population.

The deaths occurred in the Wards as follows :

| <i>Census 1901.</i> | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----|----------------|-----|-----------------------|
| <i>Ward.</i> | <i>Population.</i> | | <i>Deaths.</i> | | <i>Rate per 1000.</i> |
| West | 6,056 | .. | 63 | ... | 10·4 |
| South..... | 6,343 | ... | 95 | ... | 15·1 |
| East | 7,446 | ... | 121 | ... | 16·2 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> | | |
| | 19,845 | | 279 | | |

The list of Deaths includes 21 amongst visitors, 22 in the General Hospital and 22 requiring the Coroner's Inquisition.

Deducting the deaths of visitors, viz., 21, from the total deaths (279) we arrive at the true rate of mortality, viz., 10·75 per 1,000 of the population proper.

The following tables show the number of deaths from all causes, and those from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases for the past ten years :—

| 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 267 | 272 | 215 | 287 | 306 | 275 | 308 | 301 | 276 | 279 |

Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases :

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| 13 | 22 | 10 | 19 | 15 | 12 | 17 | 6 | 12 | 2 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|

During the year 43 Notifications of Infectious Diseases were received, as against 113 for 1909, of which 24 were of Scarlatina, 14 of Diphtheria, 4 of Erysipelas, and 1 of Puerperal Fever. Seventeen of the Scarlatina and 4 of the Diphtheria cases were removed to the Isolation

Hospital. The deaths from these diseases are only two, viz., one from Diphtheria and one from Puerperal Fever.

Small Pox.—No case was notified in the district.

Scarlatina.—Twenty-four cases were notified as against 35 for 1909. Two in the first, 2 in the second, 10 in the third, and 10 in the fourth quarter respectively. Seventeen of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. No death is due to this complaint. The form was generally of a mild type. Every precaution was taken to prevent the spread of infection. I may add that some of the cases were imported into the town.

Diphtheria.—Fourteen cases were notified as against 70 for 1909. One in the first, one in the second, 11 in the third, and one in the fourth quarters respectively. Four of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. One death is due to this disease.

The advantages to be derived from the detailed enquiries made in connection with each case, and the discovery and isolation of “carrier” cases, as instituted the previous year, together with the combined efforts of the County School Medical Service, are so

apparent this year in the diminution of the number of cases notified, that it is scarcely necessary for me to make further comment. I should like, however, to add that your Council have wisely decided to permit the free use of anti-diphtheritic serum where the persons concerned are in needy circumstances.

Enteric Fever.—No case was notified in the district.

Diarrhœa.—One death only is returned from this complaint, in a child under one year of age.

Measles, Mumps & Whooping Cough. These diseases are not notifiable in the district, but in accordance with an arrangement made with the county medical officer, the head teachers of each Elementary School have to report to me every case of the above complaints brought to their notice. Since the beginning of the year, no less than 822 cases, viz., 214 of Measles, 589 of Mumps, and 19 of Whooping Cough, were brought to my notice; you will therefore observe that the two former diseases assumed an epidemic character, and in connection with the same, it was found necessary to close three of the schools, during which time I had all the premises concerned thoroughly disinfected by a formalin spraying machine.

Isolation Hospital.—This institution has proved a most valuable acquisition to the town, although only 21 cases were admitted during the past year, viz. 17 cases of Scarlatina, and 4 of Diphtheria, but as I have on more than one occasion suggested, an observation block, and one for Enteric Fever, are wanted to complete our requirements for infectious diseases.

I may add that the Laundry accommodation is unsatisfactory, and requires to be removed from the near proximity to the Diphtheria Block.

I can only repeat, as I have on previous occasions, that the Matron and the Nursing staff have performed their various duties in a satisfactory manner.

Abbatoirs. I have on many occasions in recent years, strongly advised you as to the necessity of removing the Abbatoirs from their present position, owing to their insanitary conditions, and close proximity to the Isolation Hospital. I am therefore pleased to know that you have at last secured a fresh site for them and that you realise the necessity for such, and I hope that by the end of this year we may see an up-to-date building in course of erection.

Unsound Meat and other Foods.—As in previous years I have periodically inspected the carcasses etc. at the Slaughter Houses and Purveyors' establishments, as well as provision and other shops where foods are prepared, stored or exposed for sale. In each case my visits have been supplementary to those of the Sanitary Officer, who is a qualified Meat and other Foods Inspector.

The 1 Public and the 8 Private Slaughter Houses situate in the same enclosure are inspected regularly during the times of slaughtering, the Inspector receiving material assistance from a vigilant caretaker living on the premises, who is in telephonic communication with him, and thus any abnormality is instantly reported.

Detailed particulars of the number of carcasses and parts of carcasses destroyed which were found diseased or unsound, are included in the Inspector's Report appended.

Milk Supply.—There are only six cowsheds in the district, and although not models in construction, they are nevertheless kept in as clean a condition as one could expect.

The milk supply is therefore largely imported from the surrounding district. The Dairies and

Milk Shops within the Urban area are generally speaking kept in a clean state.

No steps have so far been taken by your Council with regard to the presence, if any, of Tubercle Bacilli in Milk and their elimination.

Water Supply.—The source of the supply is from a series of wells sunk at the foot of a hill which is composed of mountain limestone, and owned and controlled by your Council. The service is a constant one, but having regard to the rapid growth of the town during recent years, you are wisely contemplating its extension—both by increased storage and further supply at the pumping station. The water, which is hard, and contains Chlorides, is found, however, on chemical analysis to be free from organic pollution. In order to render the chance of contamination more remote, your Council, many years since, showed their foresight in purchasing the land which forms the Watershed, to the rear of and above the source. The water has, needless to say, no plumbo solvent action.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.—House refuse is removed from houses in a satisfactory manner by direct labour, by your Council. In the case of the more scattered parts of the district it is removed once a week only, the remaining part twice, and in the case of large

Restaurants and Hotels, thrice weekly. The growing insistence by your Council of the provision of galvanized iron circular dustbins with proper covers, has proved a decided improvement in the method of refuse storage, as well as in facilitating the collection and removal of such.

The house refuse, as I have in previous years stated, has been deposited in disused clay pits in the district, but lately owing to their being full, your Council has been obliged to pile the refuse in an adjoining field.

In the summer time this putrescent accumulation is most objectionable, and I therefore again commend to your Council the advisability of the provision of a Refuse Destructor at an early date.

The Factory and Workshop Act:

Bakehouses.—All the Bakehouses have received the usual attention, and were generally found in a satisfactory condition. The statutory lime-washing, and cleansing were again carried out in accordance with the provisions of the above Act. Two new bakehouses have been registered during the year.

As in previous years all workshops within the district have been periodically inspected, and the register kept as usual. Cards are provided by your Council to each occupier,

free of charge, with the legal number of persons allowed to occupy the various rooms, legibly entered thereon. All the premises of the home workers were duly inspected, and in no instance was a case of infectious disease notified therefrom.

The Cemetery.—The necessity of providing a new site for the burial of the dead is still engaging your Council's attention, and I understand that you are negotiating for a suitable piece of land south of the town. I can only repeat what I have stated in previous reports, viz.: the urgent necessity of hastening forward the question with all possible speed, owing to the deplorable overcrowding of the present cemetery.

Rivers and Streams.—There are no natural rivers or streams within the district, but there are several rhynes or dykes present, and some of these prove occasionally to be troublesome, mainly owing to the stagnant condition of the flow of water therein, and to the deposit of certain refuse. The rhynes are, however, mainly situated in the outskirts of the town. In draining, as you did in the earlier part of the year, the lower Milton area, and abolishing the overflowing Cesspools in connection with the houses in Bathurst and Ewart Roads, much improvement was effected in the condition of the rhynes in that locality.

Elementary Public Schools. — The arrangements for the medical inspection of school children are under the control of the County Medical Officer. There are seven schools under this head in the Urban area, including two small ones in Milton, and the water supply in each case is obtained from your Council's mains.

The Sanitary condition of the schools, including drainage, lavatory accommodation, and pavement of playground, is all that can be desired in six of them. In the case of the remaining one, the absence of proper and sufficient drainage, and Sanitary conveniences, renders it advisable to either close the school or reconstruct them. I am, however, informed that the Authorities contemplate closing the school at an early date. In connection with infectious diseases, exclusion notices are in each case sent to the head teacher, together with clearance certificate at the expiration of the usual period.

Method of control of Tuberculosis.— Pulmonary Tuberculosis is not notifiable in the district, but the subject was introduced by me to your Council, including the advisability of the adoption of special rules and precautions to be observed by patients, but whilst you readily adopted the latter, which were duly printed for distribution, you deferred the question of

notification. In the cases brought to my knowledge by death certificates, I have instructed your Inspector to disinfect the infected rooms, including the bedding and personal clothing of the patient.

Byelaws.—Generally speaking, your Council are in possession of up-to-date Byelaws and Regulations, based on the model series of the L.G.B., but those dealing with Slaughter-houses require modernising, and I have every reason to believe that with the advent of the proposed new Slaughter-houses, a new set will be adopted.

With regard to houses let in lodgings, we are at present without a set of Byelaws which deal specially with that class. In 1909, I strongly advised the adoption of Byelaws that would enable us to deal with premises let in this manner and to such a class of people as require Registration and Inspection, more particularly those who are able to successfully evade the provisions relating to common lodging-houses. The Local Government Board, however, were not prepared, on an application being made to them, to assent to such a Byelaw, limiting the scope of the series to those houses let in lodgings, which your Council require to be registered, with the result that we are still without these very necessary additional legal powers.

Sewage and Public Works.—You are certainly to be congratulated upon the excellent and extensive work carried out during the past year in connection with your sewerage system. The construction of the new surface water sewer, extending from Greenfield Place, the Church, Coronation and Bristol Roads, to the Cemetery, and the new sewer in the Ashcombe District, will undoubtedly relieve the town sewers of an enormous quantity of surface water, which originally found its way into them, and cannot fail to greatly enhance the efficiency of your present system, by giving the sewers a greater capacity for the storage of sewage proper, during such times as the outfall at the River Axe is tide-locked.

The efficiency of these works has, I think, been instanced during the recent wet period by the absence of complaints of flooding, during heavy rainfall, of premises in some of the low-lying parts of the town, from which such complaints were formerly not infrequent.

The construction of the new sewer through part of Baker and Meadow Streets which replaces the old and defective sewers there, is also a most excellent undertaking and has much improved the state of affairs in this thickly populated part of the Town. I hope you will be able to see your

way clear to continue this work through the entire length of Meadow Street, in the near future.

I record also with pleasure the commendable work done in cleansing the main outfall sewer, and the reconstruction of numerous old sewers of a minor, but none the less important, character, in various parts of the town.

I am pleased to note that you still have under consideration the question of additional lavatory and shelter accommodation on your sea front, and I hope this work will soon be accomplished for the convenience of both residents and visitors.

The new convenience near the Sanatorium has, I am sure, been much appreciated. The efficient scavenging and cleansing of the roads and footways and the extensive tar spraying and dust-laying operations which have been carried out have done much to maintain the hygienic reputation of the town.

The details of legislation and nuisances discovered appear in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, attached.

The tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, which I append, are tabulated statements of the deaths, classified according to diseases, ages and localities.

In conclusion, I may add that, as in former years, a systematic inspection of the district has

been made as time permitted, and all insanitary conditions and ordinary nuisances, as soon as they were discovered, received immediate attention, whilst those localities in which zymotic diseases appeared were specially and carefully watched, and their hygienic requirements attended to.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. VERNON HITCHINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

*Wyndham Villa,
7th February, 1911.*

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1910 and previous years.
WESTON-SUPER-MARE URBAN DISTRICT.

| YEAR. | Population estimated to Middle of each Year. | BIRTHS. | | DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE. | | DEATHS AT ALL AGES. | | TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. | Deaths of Non-residents registered in District.† | Deaths of Residents registered beyond District. | DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NETT. | |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|--------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|--------|
| | | Number. | Rate.* | Number. | Rate per 1000 Births registered | Number. | Rate.* | | | | Number. | Rate.* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1900 | 19,500 | 319 | 16.35 | 49 | 153.5 | 289 | 14.82 | 21 | 23 | | 266 | 13.64 |
| 1901 | 19,845 | 344 | 18.05 | 37 | 107.5 | 267 | 14.01 | 13 | 5 | | 262 | 13.75 |
| 1902 | 20,094 | 307 | 15.27 | 34 | 110.7 | 272 | 13.53 | 18 | 4 | | 268 | 13.33 |
| 1903 | 20,344 | 370 | 18.18 | 31 | 83.7 | 215 | 10.50 | 9 | 3 | | 212 | 10.42 |
| 1904 | 20,644 | 358 | 17.30 | 36 | 100.5 | 287 | 13.90 | 19 | 10 | | 277 | 13.47 |
| 1905 | 21,144 | 373 | 17.60 | 38 | 101.8 | 306 | 14.40 | 24 | 9 | | 297 | 14.00 |
| 1906 | 22,000 | 411 | 18.6 | 47 | 114.35 | 275 | 12.50 | 33 | 8 | | 267 | 12.13 |
| 1907 | 22,500 | 386 | 17.5 | 32 | 82.9 | 308 | 13.58 | 26 | 11 | | 297 | 13.20 |
| 1908 | 23,000 | 382 | 16.6 | 35 | 91.6 | 301 | 13.08 | 22 | 10 | | 291 | 12.60 |
| 1909 | 23,500 | 371 | 15.7 | 19 | 51.2 | 276 | 11.74 | 25 | 8 | | 208 | 11.40 |
| Averages for years 1900-1909. | 21,158 | 362 | 17.11 | 35 | 99.7 | 279 | 13.20 | 21 | 9 | | 264 | 12.79 |
| 1910 | 24,000 | 342 | 14.2 | 35 | 102.3 | 279 | 11.62 | 22 | 7 | | 272 | 11.3 |

* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) } 2,483
 Total population at all ages ... 19,845
 Number of inhabited houses ... 3,681
 Average number of persons per house ... 5.3
 } at Census of 1901.

† By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in Public Institutions there.

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1910
and previous years.

| | | DISTRICT—WESTON-SUPER-MARE URBAN. | | | |
|---|-----|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Population esti- mated to middle of each Year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all ages. | Deaths under 1 year. |
| | | <i>a.</i> | <i>b.</i> | <i>c.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
| 1900 | ... | 19,500 | 319 | 289 | 49 |
| 1901 | ... | 19,845 | 344 | 267 | 37 |
| 1902 | ... | 20,094 | 307 | 272 | 34 |
| 1903 | ... | 20,344 | 370 | 215 | 31 |
| 1904 | ... | 20,644 | 358 | 287 | 36 |
| 1905 | ... | 21,144 | 373 | 306 | 38 |
| 1906 | ... | 22,000 | 411 | 275 | 47 |
| 1907 | ... | 22,500 | 386 | 308 | 32 |
| 1908 | ... | 23,000 | 382 | 301 | 35 |
| 1909 | ... | 23,500 | 371 | 276 | 19 |
| Averages of Years 1900 to 1909 ... } | | 21,158 | 362 | 279 | 35 |
| 1910 | ... | 24,000 | 342 | 279 | 35 |

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1910 in the
Weston-super-Mare Urban District.

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASE. | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT (H). | | | | | | | NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL. |
|------------------------|--|----------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| | At all ages. | At Ages—Years. | | | | | | |
| | | Un- der 1 | 1 to 5. | 5 to 15. | 15 to 25. | 25 to 65. | 65 & up- w'ds. | |
| Diphtheria ... | 14 | | 1 | 10 | 2 | 1 | | 4 |
| Erysipelas ... | 4 | | | | | 4 | | |
| Scarlet Fever | 24 | | 4 | 14 | 3 | 3 | | 17 |
| Enteric „ | | | | | | | | |
| Puerperal „ | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| Totals ... | 43 | | 5 | 24 | 6 | 8 | | 21 |

H.—Isolation Hospital, Drove Road, Weston-super-Mare.
Total available Beds—40.
Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 2.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1910.
WESTON-SUPER-MARE URBAN DISTRICT.

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | DEATHS IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT AT THE SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. |
|---|---|---------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| | All ages. | Under 1 | 1 and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 65 | 65 and upwards. | |
| Measles | 5 | 1 | 4 | | | | | |
| Scarlet Fever | | | | | | | | |
| Whooping-cough | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria & membranous croup | 1 | | | 1 | | | | |
| Diarrhoea | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Enteritis | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Puerperal Fever | 1 | | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) | 28 | | | 2 | 3 | 23 | | |
| Other Tubercular Diseases | 4 | 1 | | | | 2 | | |
| Cancer, malignant disease | 33 | | | | 2 | 19 | 12 | 4 |
| Bronchitis | 28 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 7 | 18 | |
| Pneumonia | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver | 2 | | | | | 2 | | |
| Premature birth | 7 | 7 | | | | | | |
| Heart Diseases | 42 | | | 2 | | 15 | 25 | 2 |
| Accidents | 6 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Suicides | 2 | | | | | 2 | | |
| All other causes | 103 | 17 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 37 | 43 | 9 |
| All causes | 279 | 35 | 11 | 8 | 11 | 112 | 102 | 22 |

CHAS. VERNON HITCHINS, Medical Officer of Health.

7th Feb., 1911.

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910. Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.
WESTON-SUPER-MARE URBAN DISTRICT.

| CAUSE OF DEATH. | Period | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total Deaths under 1 Year. |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----|-------------------------------|
| | Under 1 Week. | 1-2 Weeks. | 2-3 Weeks. | 3-4 Weeks. | Total under 1 Month. | 1-2 Months. | 2-3 Months. | 3-4 Months. | 4-5 Months. | 5-6 Months. | 6-7 Months. | 7-8 Months. | 8-9 Months. | 9-10 Months. | 10-11 Months. | 11-12 Months. | | |
| All Causes { Certified - - - 35 Uncertified - - Nil | 7 | 3 | 2 | | 12 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 1 | 35 | |
| Common Infectious Disease— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Measles - - - - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| Whooping-cough - - - | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 | |
| Diarrhoeal Diseases— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhoea, all forms - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) - - | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Gastritis, Gastro intestinal Catarrh - | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Wasting Diseases—Premature Birth - | 4 | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 7 | |
| Congenital Defects - - - | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 3 | |
| Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tuberculous Diseases - - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Syphilis - - - - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) - - | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | | | 2 | | | 4 | |
| Convulsions - - - - - | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Bronchitis - - - - - | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Pneumonia - - - - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| Suffocation, overlying - - - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Other Causes - - - - - | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 7 | |
| | 7 | 3 | 2 | | 12 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 1 | 35 | |

District (or sub-division) of Weston-super-Mare.

Population, estimated to middle of 1910, 24,000.

Deaths in the year—legitimate infants, 35 ; illegitimate, nil.

Births in the year—legitimate, 338 ; illegitimate, 4

Deaths from all Causes at all ages, 279.

| I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District. | II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District. | III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District. |
|---|---|---|
| General Hospital. Royal West of England Sanatorium. Children's Convalescent Home. Nursing Institute. | Axbridge Union Workhouse. | <i>Nil.</i> |

STATUTORY HOSPITAL,

Statement of Patients admitted to Hospital during the Year 1910.

Remaining in Hospital, 31st December, 1909—

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|---|---|---|
| Scarlatina | ... | ... | 2 | } | 3 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | 1 | | |

Admitted during year to December 31st, 1910—

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|----|---|----|
| Scarlatina | ... | .. | 17 | } | 21 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | 4 | | |

Remaining in Hospital, 31st December, 1910—

| | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|---|
| Scarlatina | ... | ... | 5 |
|------------|-----|-----|---|

**Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1910, for the
Urban District of Weston-super-Mare.**

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

| Premises. | Number of | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Inspections. | Written Notices. | Prosecutions. |
| Factories (Including Factory Laundries). | 7 | Nil | Nil. |
| Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries and Bakehouses). | 101 | 78 | „ |
| Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises in- cluded in Part 3 of this Report). | 6 | Nil | „ |
| Total ... | 114 | 78 | „ |

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

| Particulars. | Number of Defects | | | Number of Prosecutions. |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Found. | Remedied. | Referred to H.M. Inspector. | |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i> | | | | |
| Want of Cleanliness | 9 | 9 | Nil. | Nil. |
| Want of Ventilation | 4 | 4 | „ | „ |
| Overcrowding | 2 | 2 | „ | „ |
| Want of drainage of floors | — | — | „ | „ |
| Other nuisances | 6 | 6 | „ | „ |
| Sanitary accommo- dations. } insufficient | 4 | 4 | „ | „ |
| Sec. 22 } unsuitable or | | | | |
| P. H. A. A. A. } defective | 4 | 4 | „ | „ |
| 1890 adopted. } not separate for sexes | 1 | 1 | „ | „ |
| 1 W.C. for each 25 workers. } | | | | |
| <i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i> | | | | |
| Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (S. 101)... | Nil. | Nil. | „ | „ |
| Breach of special sanitary re- quirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) | 74 | 74 | „ | „ |
| Other offences | 4 | 4 | „ | „ |
| (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report). | | | | |
| Total | 108 | 108 | „ | „ |

3.—HOME WORK.

| Nature of Work. | Lists received from Employers twice in a year. | | Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists. | Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises. | Outwork in Infected Premises. |
|--|--|-------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | Lists. | Out-workers | | | Instances. |
| Wearing Apparel— | | | | | |
| (1) Making &c. - - - | 18 | 80 | 16 | 37 | Nil |
| (2) Cleaning & Washing Lace, lace curtains and nets Furniture and Upholstery - | | | | | |
| Total - - - - | 18 | 80 | 16 | 37 | Nil |

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

| Workshops on the Register (s. 101) at the end of the year. | Number. |
|--|---------|
| Bakehouses - - - - - | 37 |
| Other trades - - - - - | 60 |
| Total number of Workshops on register - | 97 |

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

| Class. | Number. |
|--|---------|
| Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :— | |
| Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133) ... | |
| Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory & Workshop Act (S. 5) { Notified by H.M. Inspector | 2 |
| Other ... { Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors. | 2 |
| Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :— | |
| Certificates granted during the year ... | „ |
| In use at the end of 1907 ... | „ |

Feb. 7th, 1911

CHARLES VERNON HITCHINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Urban District Council of Weston=super=Mare.

CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1910.

I append the Annual Climatological Report for 1910.

The observations below are recorded by Mr. F. Allen at the Town Hall.

The usual Reports were forwarded to the Royal Meteorological Society during the year. Weekly and daily reports were also supplied to the local Press, and telegrams sent daily, reporting sunshine, rainfall, and any special phenomena, to the London Newspaper Weather Bureau, and several evening and daily papers published in the principal towns, the cost of which was defrayed by the Town Advertising Committee.

The highest observed reading of the barometer during the year was 30·62, on the 6th March, at 9 a.m. ; whilst the lowest was 28·80, on the 10th December, at the same hour.

The highest temperature registered in the Stephenson Screen during the year was 78·2 degrees, on the 28th June. The lowest was 20·8, on the 27th January.

The highest reading of the blackened bulb thermometer in vacuo was 134·7, on the 14th August ; whilst the bright bulb registered 102·3 degrees, on the 20th June. The greatest difference between the maximum indications, upon the same day, of the bright and black bulb thermometers in vacuo was 34·7, on the 14th August. The lowest temperature registered over short grass, by a sensitive Terrestrial radiation minimum thermometer, was 18·5, on the 27th January. The day of the highest mean temperature of the air was 14th August, and the value for that day was 68·9 degrees. The day of the lowest mean temperature was 26th January, when 29·6 degrees were registered. The greatest range of temperature in the Screen upon any one day was 25·2 degrees, which reading was on the 11th May.

The least range was 0·3 degrees, on the 2nd February.

The average relative humidity of the air, taken at 9 a.m., was 79 per cent., and complete saturation occurred on very few occasions.

The greatest duration of bright sunshine, per Campbell-Stokes recorder, upon any one day, was 15 hours, on 14th of June. The total amount of bright sunshine for the year was 1,546·7 hours, as compared with 1,717·3 hours in 1909.

The heaviest fall of rain in any one ‘rainfall day’—i.e., 24 hours, ending at 9 a.m. next day—was 1·92 inches, on the 5th June ; whilst the total amount of rainfall for the year was 39·56 inches. This amount is 10·12 inches above the average for the past ten years, which is 29·44 inches, and rain fell on 188 days during the year.

The mean temperature for the year was 50·9 degrees.

MONTHLY RESULTS OF CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

| 1910. Month. | TEMPERATURES. | | | | | | | Relative Humidity. % | Amount of Cloud, 9 a.m. | RAIN. | | Hours of Sunshine. | Barometer. 9 a.m. |
|----------------------|---------------|------|------|-------|------|-----------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | MEANS. | | | | | EXTREMES. | | | | Amount Inches. | Number of Wet days. | | |
| | 9 a.m. | Min. | Max. | Range | Mean | Min. | Max. | | | | | | |
| January | 41.3 | 37.7 | 45.0 | 7.3 | 41.4 | 20.8 | 53.8 | 86 | 0—10 | 3.30 | 20 | 58.7 | 30.021 |
| February | 44.4 | 39.8 | 47.4 | 7.6 | 43.6 | 34.1 | 52.4 | 82 | 7 | 3.71 | 23 | 98.2 | 29.216 |
| March | 45.4 | 38.2 | 50.9 | 12.7 | 44.6 | 31.7 | 55.9 | 76 | 6 | 0.40 | 8 | 171.8 | 30.156 |
| April | 48.3 | 41.7 | 51.6 | 9.9 | 46.7 | 31.2 | 58.3 | 75 | 7 | 2.13 | 16 | 141.7 | 29.882 |
| May | 55.1 | 47.5 | 60.6 | 13.1 | 54.1 | 35.9 | 74.9 | 72 | 6 | 2.01 | 17 | 222.9 | 29.914 |
| June | 60.8 | 53.5 | 66.0 | 12.5 | 59.8 | 48.0 | 78.2 | 75 | 7 | 5.01 | 14 | 176.8 | 29.944 |
| July | 62.0 | 54.6 | 65.9 | 11.3 | 60.3 | 50.8 | 77.3 | 70 | 7 | 1.66 | 11 | 163.5 | 29.924 |
| August | 62.4 | 55.9 | 67.3 | 11.4 | 61.6 | 49.9 | 75.8 | 78 | 7 | 6.71 | 19 | 156.1 | 29.885 |
| September | 59.1 | 50.9 | 63.7 | 12.8 | 57.3 | 40.1 | 71.9 | 75 | 6 | 0.15 | 4 | 160.7 | 30.288 |
| October | 53.5 | 49.0 | 57.6 | 8.5 | 53.3 | 42.5 | 65.4 | 83 | 8 | 5.30 | 15 | 69.8 | 30.029 |
| November | 42.2 | 37.1 | 46.7 | 9.6 | 41.9 | 27.3 | 52.8 | 84 | 7 | 5.07 | 18 | 90.5 | 29.680 |
| December | 45.9 | 43.2 | 49.1 | 5.9 | 46.2 | 29.3 | 54.8 | 87 | 9 | 4.11 | 23 | 35.9 | 29.664 |
| Means and Totals. | 51.7 | 45.8 | 56.0 | 10.2 | 50.9 | 36.8 | 64.3 | 79 | 7 | 39.56 | 188 | 1546.7 | 29.884 |

CHAS. VERNON HITCHINS, Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
ANNUAL REPORT
for 1910.

*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.*

GENTLEMEN,

It gives me much pleasure to submit to you my tenth Annual Report upon work done in my department.

The record of such work accomplished in the district in connection with practical sanitary science, in so far as my supervision and duties are involved, indicates the continuance of the steady progress of former years, and this is to me a very encouraging factor, showing as it does that I not only continue to enjoy your Council's moral and legal support, but that the public also are appreciating to the full the efforts in this direction, which are, in reality, in their interest. This fact naturally affords me keen pleasure in my work, and inspires me with energy and hope in striving

to reach a still higher ideal in the future. I venture to think that it is only by cultivating this sanguine temperament, and boldly marching forward, as it were, in the van of progress, in all practical hygienic measures, that the Sanitary Inspector can hope to keep pace with the rapid evolution of the Medical Public Health Service, and to render, as in the past, valuable aid to his co-worker—the Medical Officer of Health. As in previous years, so in 1910, moral suasion has proved most successful in inducing residents generally to comply with the various enactments, Bye-laws and Regulations in force, and to carry out valuable improvements in connection with the sanitary arrangements of houses.

Notices and Letters.—The number of written notices and letters sent, with respect to the abatement of nuisances, is 762, which shows a slight decrease as compared with 1909, whilst no less than 113 verbal intimations were given. It is interesting to note that only in two instances were statutory notices found necessary to enforce compliance with the requisitions of the informal or preliminary notices sent.

Complaints.—As in former years, many complaints were found, on investigation, to be outside the scope of sanitary law. Those that were of a legitimate character were quickly dealt

with, and my experience proves that it is a wise course, in the interest of public health, to encourage the people to lay their grievances and complaints before the Sanitary Officer by treating at all times the information so gained as strictly confidential. This enables one to be in touch with many "black spots" of a more or less "mushroom growth," and also removes many annoyances to people affected, whilst the sudden appearance of the Sanitary Inspector here, there and everywhere, has a salutary effect in eliminating much that would otherwise possibly prove a nuisance as well as a menace to health.

The fly nuisance, which has received such prominence in the public press of late years, although comparatively speaking a negligible quantity in Weston, was, nevertheless, in a great number of cases, found to be the cause of complaint—in connection with the many stables scattered about the town. The adoption, however, of preventive measures, in the way of improved paving of yards, the provision of smooth and impervious manure receptacles above the ground level, as well as properly covered galvanized iron bins for the reception of house refuse, and particularly the more frequent removal of stable manure, have proved valuable factors in the reduction of this dangerous house pest.

Owing to the somewhat hard nature of the Weston water, the provision of a supplementary soft water supply becomes almost a household necessity, and therefore each householder aims at storing rain-water in tanks—both open and of the underground type.

The latter proves occasionally to be very troublesome, owing to the presence or introduction of a certain low form of minute life, which is capable of producing a very offensive odour, of the nature and character of sulphuretted hydrogen. Although the tanks have no connection in any way with the drainage arrangements, the repeated recurrence of this decomposing “sewage smell,” despite frequent cleansing and lime-washing of their interior, renders the task of convincing occupiers of the comparatively harmless nature of the water, which is used only for ablution and laundry purposes, almost futile. The best remedy that has so far been found, is a comparatively stable form of chlorine water, which your Council supplies gratuitously in certain cases, in the form of “Chloros,” or “liquid bleach.” A dilution of from 1 part in 5,000 to 1 part in 10,000 usually suffices, as an antiseptic for many months at a stretch.

A marked improvement is apparent in the maintenance of w.c. traps free from corrosions of

a limy nature, which improvement is, doubtless, mainly due to the education amongst house-keepers and others afforded by the annoying nuisances which these innocent-looking mineral formations are capable of producing, viz., a very offensive, putrefactive smell, very suggestive of raw drain or sewer-gas escaping.

Improvements to House Drainage.—

Special attention has been given to improvements in House drainage, and the maintenance of a high standard of efficiency of drains and sanitary fittings—in connection with both new and old houses. This, obviously, is as it ought to be, particularly in a Health Resort, and, as the stringent requirements of your Council under this head are now so well known, it is unnecessary to refer to them in detail. All the drains between the “Winser” pattern intercepting trap and inspection chamber, which is situated as near as practicable to the public sewer and the top end of the drain, are invariably four inches in diameter, and are taken in a straight line from point to point, with the provision of inspection chambers, fitted with strong iron covers, at all such points or changes in direction, as well as at all important junctions. The Ventilation of a drain is a difficult matter, although not to the same extent as in the case of a sewer. This is particularly so

where there is a long length of drain, and, therefore, a much larger fouling area for the usual slimy interior surface to putrify than is ordinarily the case. By fixing two or more upcast ventilating shafts, one at least placed in connection with the intercepting chamber, replacing the usual mica valve, difficulties of this nature have been overcome. In the ordinary way, however, a good form of mica valve is used, which is kept as high up as practicable above the ground level. Particular attention is also given to ensure that the upper ends of ventilating shafts are at least 4 feet above eaves, or of any window head which may be situated within 20 feet thereof. The "hydraulic," or water test, is always applied to newly-laid drains, both before and after the pipes are covered, whilst the drains, together with the whole of the Sanitary fittings, including the inspection chamber covers, are finally tested with the smoke-test.

Town Planning Act.—With the coming into force of the Town Planning Act, a systematic inspection of the District, or, at any rate, all houses below a certain annual value, is made compulsory, and the Regulations which were recently issued in connection therewith, by the Local Government Board, also provide that a certain form of bookkeeping or system must be adopted, and a permanent record kept of the detailed

inspections which are made. Moreover, among other things, there are a number of points to which the inspecting officer must particularly direct his attention, in connection with the premises he is examining. Especially must he ascertain the existence of underground sleeping-rooms, and any defects which may tend to render the dwelling-house dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants. Your Council have duly appointed me as the "Officer" (mentioned in the Act) to carry out the duties enumerated, under the supervision and instruction of the Medical Officer of Health.

This will necessarily mean largely increased responsibilities, and considerably more work than formerly, if one is to conscientiously interpret the intention of the Legislature. It is pleasing, therefore, to note that the higher Authority, the Local Government Board, are recognising this in an Order they have quite recently sent out to Local Authorities, intimating that there will be no opposition to the granting of increased remuneration where the Officer appointed is also the Sanitary Inspector.

The record of the work done under this head in my department is kept on the loose ledger principle, that is to say, the inspections are more

carefully entered than ordinarily on specially perforated octavo size ledger paper, with suitable headings, etc., and these are eventually indexed, and filed in a suitable cabinet, but not until any nuisances or defects discovered are remedied. Whilst this system saves much Office work, it involves the exercise of greater care and time in connection with each initial entry.

It was not until the latter part of the year that your Council directed the necessary work to be done under this Act, and only 45 houses have so far been inspected. Of this number, five houses were deemed to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and in connection with special reports made, giving all defects, these were accordingly certified by the Medical Officer of Health, and duly closed. Defects in the drainage system, Sanitary fittings, paving of yards and scullery floors were among the nuisances found to exist in connection with a number of the remaining houses. Most of these have been either satisfactorily abated, or are, at the time of writing, well in hand.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection.

The number of cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases to which I was instructed by the Medical Officer of Health to give attention during the year will, I hope, prove a record, as it involved a great

deal of labour in supplementing the visits of the Medical Officer, and in sending out exclusion and clearance notices relative to each case. No less a number than 1,764 notices were thus sent to head teachers of elementary schools, mainly due to an epidemic of (1) mumps and (2) measles, in the earlier and latter parts of the year respectively. Whilst the usual standard of disinfection was not demanded in the case of the above and similar diseases, it was readily done whenever a request was made, but in connection with the comparatively few notifiable cases received, fumigation of the infected rooms by Formaldehyde vapour, generated by the aid of "Alformant" and "Hydralformant" lamps, was insisted upon, as well as, in special cases, supplementary spraying of interior surfaces, and in addition to which, disinfection of all infected bedding, clothing, etc., by their subjection to saturated or current steam, in a Thresh's patent disinfecting apparatus, was also carried out.

A special instruction was received during the year relative to all known cases of Phthisis. The method adopted was to fumigate all infected rooms, and further disinfect the interior surfaces by means of a "Mackenzie" spraying machine, using 1 in a 100 strength of "Izal" or similar fluid. The infected bedding, clothing, etc., was

also removed to be disinfected by steam. Altogether 24 rooms were dealt with.

The thorough spraying of the interior of three schools, including cloak rooms, lavatories, etc., was also carried out at the request of your Medical Officer, together with the spraying of a number of class-rooms by special request on various occasions.

Disinfecting fluid, powder, and soap were judiciously distributed to members of the poorer classes, as in former years, with apparently good results.

Over 800 visits and inspections were made in connection with infectious diseases, including notifiable and non-notifiable cases.

Cleansing of Houses.—In order to facilitate the work of keeping the interior and exterior of working men's cottages in as clean a state as possible, your Council continued to extend the loan of lime-wash brushes for a limited period to those who were considered too poor to purchase such for themselves, and, in special cases, a small quantity of lime was also granted. No less than 225 persons availed themselves of this "aid to cleanliness," the cost of which, ignoring the labour involved in delivering, and in getting the brushes returned, is found to be comparatively trifling.

Dustbins.—A determined effort was again made to get occupiers of houses to provide galvanized iron receptacles in lieu of brick-built pits, boxes, pans, etc., and 246 houses were specially inspected under this heading, whilst 72 circular bins, with suitable covers, were provided.

Slaughterhouses.—The public and the eight private slaughterhouses, which are all situated within the same enclosure, in Drove-road, and owned by your Council, have been periodically visited—more particularly during the hours of killing—namely, Wednesdays and Thursdays, with “Surprise” visits at other times also. The possession of a “Master Key,” as I have mentioned in previous Annual reports, is of very great value, ensuring, as it does, accessibility to the private slaughterhouses at all times. The moral effect of this is obvious. The attendance daily of a vigilant caretaker, who resides in a house situate within the same curtilage as the slaughterhouses, and who is systematically on the look-out for abnormalities, etc., with telephonic communication to the residences of the Medical Officer of Health and myself, render the overlooking of a diseased carcase very remote. The one detached private slaughterhouse in your District is situated at Milton, and this was also periodically visited during times of slaughtering.

In addition to the quarterly lime-washing and cleansing of the whole of the interior of the various buildings required by the Bye-laws, in connection with which 44 notices were served, the daily cleansing was also carried out as far as practicable.

The high standard of quality of meat offered for sale in the District was well maintained during the past year.

In my annual report for 1909 I remarked that there was an increase in the total number of animals slaughtered in the Public Abbatoir, but during the past year a decrease of 209 has to be reported. This has occurred in connection with pig slaughtering—probably owing to the prevailing scarcity and high prices of hogs.

I find, however, that many of the farmers and pig dealers slaughter their pigs, if not on their own premises, at any rate outside the boundary of this District, and cartloads of carcasses ready dressed are thus sold and brought to the butchers of Weston without having been inspected. A periodical inspection of the pork butchers' shops is now made, but in order to guard against the possibility of diseased meat being sold, all these carcasses, with "hinges" attached, ought to be regularly subjected to a rigid inspection.

The following tabulated statement gives the number of different animals killed and dressed at the Public Slaughterhouse as compared with that for 1909 :—

| | | 1909. | | 1910. |
|----------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Number of Pigs | ... | 3,939 | ... | 3,704 |
| „ „ Sheep | ... | 2,634 | ... | 2,673 |
| „ „ Calves | ... | 493 | ... | 500 |
| „ „ Oxen | ... | 355 | ... | 335 |
| | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Total | ... | 7,421 | ... | 7,212 |

Probably as many Oxen, Sheep and Calves were slaughtered in the private slaughterhouses.

Unsound Meat and other Foods.—

It is only fair to state that the butchers of the town continue to render every possible assistance in connection with meat inspection, making no attempt to hide anything, and at all times readily surrendering the whole or any part of a carcass when instructed by the Medical Officer of Health or myself so to do.

The following are particulars in detail of meat and other foods seized and destroyed :—

Tuberculous Meat.

2 complete carcasses of Oxen.

5 „ „ „ Pigs.

807 lbs. of Beef.

58 „ „ Pork.

Other Diseases.

- 10 carcasses of Pigs.
- 250 lbs. of Pork.
- 2 Sheep.
- 36 Hinges.
- 46 Livers.
- 1 box of mixed Fish.
- 1 bag of Cockles (about 1 cwt.)
- 10 lbs. of Whelks.

Factories and Workshops.—A tabulated statement showing work done under this head is appended to the report of the Medical Officer of Health, but I may add that a register of workshops is also kept. The workshops are periodically inspected, and include bakehouses. In connection with the required lime-washing and cleansing etc. of these premises 74 notices were served and duly complied with. Two new bakehouses were opened during the year.

The number of outworkers' lists received was the same as that for 1909—*i.e.*, indicating that the work was being done in 37 houses, or among 40 people. The homes of the outworkers were visited at least once during the year, and with the exception of minor defects discovered and remedied, not a single case of insanitary premises was found.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—

There are 6 cowsheds, and 41 dairymen and milk-sellers, on the register. Several improvements have been effected in connection with the cowsheds, as well as the modernising of the sanitary arrangements etc., attached to dairies and milk-sellers' premises, and the maintenance of vessels for storing milk in a cleanly state. The town water supply is in use at each of the above premises.

Common Lodging-houses.—As in previous years, only five common lodging-houses are on the register, and these are situated in Union Street, and give accommodation to 78 persons. They have been maintained in a cleanly state, with the usual statutory cleansing and lime-washing done twice yearly.

Milton District.—The work of abolishing the cess-pools and privies and the substitution of modern drains, sanitary conveniences etc., and the connection of same with the public sewers in Milton, has been proceeding satisfactorily, and no less than 40 houses have been so dealt with during the past year, leaving only a small number still to be dealt with.

Office Work.—Your Council appointed an office boy at the beginning of the year, to assist in clerical work, but notwithstanding this, a great

deal of time was absorbed in office duties, including interviewing people who called on business. The number of callers at my office during the year was 1,184, and practically all these received personal attention, whilst a number of persons also made enquiries in connection with other departments.

Concluding Remarks.—I am pleased once more to record the absence of any necessity for instituting legal proceedings in order to secure the abatement of nuisances etc., during the year, although in some instances pressure had to be brought to bear, in order to obtain compliance with the notices served.

It is hardly necessary perhaps for me to again state that without the continued valued help of my assistant (Mr. J. Warren, Certificated Inspector), it would have been impossible for such an amount of work as is here reported, to have been accomplished.

Once more I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of conveying my heartiest thanks to the Chairman of the Council, and of the Sanitary Committee, as well as to the members of the Council generally, for the continued support and consideration extended to me.

I have also to thank the Medical Officer of Health, and other Officers of the Council, who have at all times given me their Cordial Co-operation and Assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

THOMAS JONES,

*Holder of the following Diplomas of the Royal Sanitary Institute :
Sanitary Inspector's Qualifying Certificate ; Inspector
of Meat and other Foods ; and Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public Works. Honoursman
in Practical and Theoretical Hygiene, South Kensington ;
and holder of First-class Advanced Certificates granted
by the Board of Secondary Education in Building Con-
struction, Chemistry, Physiology etc., etc., and City and
Guilds Plumbing.*

Sanitary Inspector.

February 1st, 1911.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK

done during the year.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Houses and Premises inspected | - | - | - | - | - | - | 884 |
| Complaints investigated | - | - | - | - | - | - | 198 |
| Complaints referred to the Surveyor | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12 |
| Complaints investigated where Coal Gas was found to be the contaminating source | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Houses systematically inspected | - | - | - | - | - | - | 45 |
| Refreshment Houses, Hotels and Provision Shops in- spected | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Schools, Public Buildings and Institutions inspected | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Written Notices and Letters sent with respect to the abatement of Nuisances &c. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 762 |
| Verbal Notices given | - | - | - | - | - | - | 113 |
| Number of Houses (old) provided with new drains, pro- perly intercepted, ventilated and made smoke- and water-tight | - | - | - | - | - | - | 128 |
| Drains cleared and cleansed or repaired | - | - | - | - | - | - | 51 |
| Soil pipes removed to outside, or repaired and properly ventilated | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 |
| Number of old Pan Container Closets removed | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Cesspools and Privies abolished | - | - | - | - | - | - | 32 |
| New W.C. Pans provided and fixed of the "wash-down" type (principally pedestal closets) | - | - | - | - | - | - | 152 |
| Water Closets cleansed and repaired | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 |
| W.C.'s without a sufficient external ventilation and lighting, improved, or abolished and reconstructed | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27 |
| New Flushing Cistern supplied to water closets | - | - | - | - | - | - | 123 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| Glazed Stoneware Sinks provided and fixed with properly trapped lead waste pipes | - | - | - | - | - | 105 |
| Bath and Lavatory Waste Pipes trapped | - | - | - | - | - | 27 |
| Number of rain-water Down Pipes and Waste Pipes disconnected from drains | - | - | - | - | - | 42 |
| Rain-water underground Storage Tanks cleansed, and Overflows disconnected from drains or examined | - | - | - | - | - | 22 |
| Urinals reconstructed or repaired, and with proper Flushing Cisterns provided | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Yards repaved or repaired | - | - | - | - | - | 80 |
| Sanitary Dustbins provided and Ash-Pits abolished | - | - | - | - | - | 72 |
| Defective House Roofs, Walls, Floors and Gutterings repaired | - | - | - | - | - | 19 |
| Number of Cesspools cleared and cleansed by own men | - | - | - | - | - | 104 |
| Rooms fumigated, and disinfected after illness of infectious character | - | - | - | - | - | 164 |
| Number of premises from which Infectious Articles were removed for disinfection by steam | - | - | - | - | - | 51 |
| Total number of Articles disinfected by steam at your Disinfection Station | - | - | - | - | - | 2117 |
| Number of School Notices sent in connection with the attendance of scholars from infected houses | - | - | - | - | - | 1764 |
| Number of Lime Brushes lent to cottagers | - | - | - | - | - | 225 |
| Waste of Water discovered and Fittings repaired | - | - | - | - | - | 10 |
| Rooms and Premises cleansed and lime-washed | - | - | - | - | - | 115 |
| Verminous Premises cleansed and purified etc. | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Nuisances from Overcrowding abated | - | - | - | - | - | 5 |
| Nuisances from Overcrowded Work-Rooms abated | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Stagnant Water removed, and Ditches and Private Lanes cleansed | - | - | - | - | - | 22 |
| Nuisances arising from the keeping of Animals abated | - | - | - | - | - | 14 |

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| Accumulations of Manure and other Refuse removed | - | 28 |
| Defective and foul Manure Pits abolished, and New Bins provided and properly drained | - - - - - | 5 |
| Smoke Nuisances abated | - - - - - | 3 |
| Number of Sewer Ventilating Shafts tested with Smoke | | 1 |
| Number of New Sewer lengths tested | - - - - - | 50 |
| Number of times Water Test applied to New or Repaired Drains belonging to old houses | - - - - - | 729 |
| Soil Pipes, Ventilating Shafts and Drains tested with the Smoke Machine | - - - - - | 153 |
| Number of Water Tests applied to the Drains of New Buildings | - - - - - | 592 |
| Number of times Smoke Tests applied to the Drains and sanitary fittings of New Buildings | - - - - - | 135 |
| New Buildings and Premises inspected for which plans had been approved | - - - - - | 145 |
| Number of New Houses certified to the Surveyor as having the drains and sanitary fittings in compliance with the building bye-laws | - - - - - | 135 |
| Number of Houses provided with a proper Water Supply and Wells closed | - - - - - | 17 |
| Periodically Inspected | Licensed Slaughter-houses | - - - 9 |
| | Registered Dairies, Milk-Shops and Cow- Sheds | - - - - - 47 |
| | Registered Work-Shops, including Bake- Houses | - - - - - 97 |
| | Registered Common Lodging-Houses | - 5 |

THOMAS JONES,
SANITARY INSPECTOR.